

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 26th May 1906.

CONTENTS.

	P. g. .		Page.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(h)—General—	
Persian politics	463	A poem	466
The Anglo-Turkish dispute	ib.	Government and the poverty of the country	ib.
England and Turkey	ib.	The nature of the Government of India	ib.
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		The Barisal incidents	ib.
(a)—Police—		The official version of the Barisal incidents	467
The Mymensingh riots	463	The Barisal incidents	ib.
The Police Superintendent of Shahabad	ib.	Musalman <i>versus</i> Hindu zamindars	468
Allegation against a police daroga	ib.	The disturbances in Mymensingh	ib.
<i>Bande Mataram</i> and a procession at Gaibandha	ib.	The District Magistrate and the Mymensingh riots	470
Gambling at Uttarpara in Hooghly	ib.	The partial withdrawal of the Lyon circulars	ib.
Crime in some districts in Bengal	ib.	The Lyon circulars	ib.
A complaint against a daffadar	ib.	The partial withdrawal of the Lyon circulars	ib.
The supply of chaukidars' uniforms	ib.	Withdrawal of Mr. Lyon's <i>Bande Mataram</i> circular	ib.
(b)—Working of the Courts—		Mr. Morley's policy	471
The case of the Chairman of the Rajshahi Municipality	464	Mr. Morley's recent utterances	ib.
The Rajshahi Municipal Chairman's case	ib.	Sympathy with the anti-partition agitation "Cause for alarm"	ib.
The case of Babu Neul Ram Marwari of Bankura	ib.	The withdrawal of Eastern-Bengal circulars	472
The Midnapore sedition case	ib.	Officials under Sir B. Fuller's Government	ib.
Proceedings against the pleaders and mukhtars of Pirojpur	ib.	Lord Minto and Eastern Bengal affairs	ib.
The Jullundur cooly murder case	ib.	The governors and the governed in the new Province	ib.
(c)—Jails—		The affairs in Eastern Bengal	ib.
Nil.		Appointment of Engineers in India	473
(d)—Education—		Indians and service under Government	ib.
The Calcutta University and Empire Day	464	The cases against Mr. Jack	ib.
The case of a teacher of the Dacca Collegiate School	465	The proposed extension of the time allowed for the Budget debate	ib.
Attendance at a <i>swadeshi</i> meeting punished by fine	ib.	Grain-allowance to Government clerks	ib.
(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—		A memorial tablet for the house of Rai Dina-bandhu Mitter Bahadur	ib.
A municipal complaint	465	A memorial tablet for the house of Rai Dina-bandhu Mitter Bahadur	ib.
The Calcutta municipal embezzlement case	ib.	III.—LEGISLATION.	
The Koila Ghat bathing-ghat in Calcutta	ib.	The proposed Legislative Council for Eastern Bengal and Assam	474
Cholera in Bengal	ib.	District Boards and Municipalities, and elections for the Legislative Council	ib.
(f)—Questions affecting the land—		IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
Nil.		Nil.	
(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—		V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.	
The Hooghly-Katwa extension	465	Distress in the Backergunge district	474
An averted railway collision on the Assam-Bengal Railway	ib.	Reported distress in Faridpur	ib.
The southern section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway	ib.	Scarcity in Jessore and Khulna	ib.
Three recent cases of railway accident	466	Government and distress in the country	ib.
Wanted repairs to a <i>bund</i>	ib.	Reported famine in the Nadia district	ib.
Proposed steam ferries on the Hooghly	ib.	Distress in a village in the Sonthal Parganas	ib.
		Distress in a village in the Nadia district	475

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

<i>Deser Katha</i> , by Pundit Sakharan Ganes Deoskar	475
A proposal of revenge on the English ...	<i>ib.</i>
What the Indian thinks about himself ...	<i>ib.</i>
A poem ...	<i>ib.</i>
A comparison between Sir B. Fuller and the sun as oppressors of the Bengalis ...	<i>ib.</i>
The <i>swadeshi</i> movement in Rangpur ...	<i>ib.</i>
The accused in the Midnapore sedition case ...	<i>ib.</i>
Reported boycott of foreign salt ...	<i>ib.</i>
A Musalman on the boycott ...	476
The boycott in Pabna ...	<i>ib.</i>
The partition ...	<i>ib.</i>
Lord Curzon's administration criticised ...	<i>ib.</i>
A national school at Comilla ...	<i>ib.</i>
The <i>swadeshi</i> in Jessore town ...	<i>ib.</i>
A poem in connexion with the <i>swadeshi</i> movement ...	<i>ib.</i>
Government and the <i>swadeshi</i> movement ...	<i>ib.</i>
Boycott in Jessore ...	477
"What shall we do now?" ...	<i>ib.</i>
"The effects of agitation" ...	<i>ib.</i>
The coming Sivaji festival ...	478

URIYA PAPERS.

The weather in Baripada ...	478
The weather in Balasore ...	<i>ib.</i>
The weather in Angul ...	<i>ib.</i>
Want of drinking water in Balasore ...	<i>ib.</i>
The economic condition of the middle classes ...	<i>ib.</i>
Relief in Talcher ...	<i>ib.</i>
Relief work in Kanika ...	<i>ib.</i>
Cholera in Balasore ...	<i>ib.</i>
Measles and dysentery in Balasore ...	479
Public health in Angul ...	<i>ib.</i>
Cholera in Baripada ...	<i>ib.</i>
Public health in Dhenkanal ...	<i>ib.</i>
Public health in Kera ...	<i>ib.</i>

URIYA PAPERS—concl'd.

Improved sanitation needed in Jalasore ...	479
A fire in Dhenkanal ...	<i>ib.</i>
Cholera in Ichhapur ...	<i>ib.</i>
Fire in Bamra ...	<i>ib.</i>
A fire in Aul ...	<i>ib.</i>
An obituary notice ...	<i>ib.</i>
Police administration in Mayurbhanj criticised ...	<i>ib.</i>
Chaukidar and village panchayet neglecting their duties in Mayurbhanj ...	<i>ib.</i>
The modesty of two female passengers outraged in Puri ...	<i>ib.</i>
The Talcher police co-operation meeting ...	480
The high-handed rule at Barisal ...	<i>ib.</i>
The <i>Aunaprasan</i> ceremony at Aul ...	<i>ib.</i>
Liberality of the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj ...	<i>ib.</i>
Liberality of Rai Kailas Chandra Mahasaya and others ...	<i>ib.</i>
Liberality of the Raja of Bara Khemedi ...	<i>ib.</i>
An appeal in favour of the Leper Asylum at Deogarh ...	<i>ib.</i>
Mayurbhanj under the influence of the Bengalis ...	<i>ib.</i>
The Uriya lamb and the Bengali goat ...	<i>ib.</i>
The <i>Uriya and Navasamvad</i> against the <i>Utkal-darpan</i> ...	<i>ib.</i>
Jobberies practised by Bengali officers in Mayurbhanj ...	481
The <i>swadeshi</i> vow ...	<i>ib.</i>
The Utkal Union Conference ...	<i>ib.</i>
The legality of the Divisional Commissioner's notification in connexion with Cuttack municipal re-election doubted ...	<i>ib.</i>
A meeting in connexion with students' messes ...	<i>ib.</i>

ASSAM PAPERS.

Wanted a dispensary ...	481
-------------------------	-----

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

NOTICING the grand and unprecedented ovation accorded by the Persian officials of Bunder Abbas in February last to the new Russian Consul, who arrived there to assume the charge of the new Consulate, the *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 18th May says that the new Russian Consul may cause a loss to the commerce of other European nations, as they will not venture to be aggressive in matters political and commercial. But the above officer states that Russia's object is purely commercial.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL MATEEN,
May 18th, 1906.

2. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May condemns the conduct of Great Britain towards Turkey in the recent dispute between them as entirely guided by selfish motives.

HITAV I,
May 18th, 1906.

3. In noticing the hostile attitude of England towards Turkey in regard to the Turko-Egyptian frontier dispute, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th May says that England's attitude is not at all good, as it will tell hard upon her Musalman subjects.

HITVARTA,
May 20th, 1906.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

4. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 15th May gives a detailed account of the Mymensingh riots and the atrocities said to have been committed by Musalmans in them.

CHARUMITR,
May 15th, 1906.

5. *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 17th May is sorry that the District Superintendent of Police, Shahabad, has beaten his Musalman servant severely while at *nemaz*.

AL PUNCH,
May 17th, 1906.

6. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May relates how a man who had two newly purchased *bilates* cloths paid for and burned with his consent at a meeting at Nageswar Mokam on the 16th April last was, against his will, compelled through the overzealousness and meddlesomeness of the local daroga to appear before the Deputy Magistrate of Kurigram and give evidence as to the foregoing facts.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th, 1906.

7. The same paper writes that it has received telegraphic information from Gaibandha to the effect that a procession got up by the students of that place was disallowed by the police and the utterance of *Bande Mataram* prohibited. It is not known if the lads had taken out a pass.

SANJIVANI.

8. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 19th May draws the attention of the Subdivisional Officer of Serampur to the prevalence of *kufon* gambling at the bazar at Uttarpara.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
May 19th, 1906.

9. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 19th May says that there has been a recrudesence of theft, dacoity, etc., in the Hooghly, Midnapore and Burdwan districts.

BANGAVASI,
May 19th, 1906.

10. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 22nd May writes that it has received a letter accusing the daffadar of the local No. 1 Union of gross neglect of duty in the matter of controlling his chaukidars.

NIHAR,
May 22nd, 1906.

11. The same paper writes that it has heard that this year the villagers, in addition to the usual chaukidari tax, will have to pay for the chaukidars' uniforms. But the chaukidars can well do with their existing uniforms for a year more. In the present year the people are threatened by a famine and there are settlement operations also going on. It is to be hoped that Government will consider these points favourably.

NIHAR.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

SANDHYA,
May 11th, 1906.

12. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 11th May writes that the recent conviction of the Chairman of the Rajshahi Municipality for an offence under section 5 of Act V by the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Hara Chandra Ghose, has greatly pained the rate-payers of that town. The trying Magistrate convicted in the face of the evidence that the police complaint was wholly unfounded and that the District Officer had brought this accusation in a fit of temper.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 20th, 1906.

13. Referring to the Rajshahi Municipal Chairman's case, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 20th May says that Sir B. Fuller's order to withdraw it shows how scandalous and humiliating it has been to the officials concerned.

BANKURA DARPAN,
May 16th, 1906.

14. Referring to the judgment of Babu Charu Chandra Banerji, Deputy Magistrate of Bankura, in the case brought against Babu Neul Ram Marwari by Bechu Singh, a constable of the local police, the *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 16th May writes:—

The officials if they wish can punish an accused person on any charge. Such punishments can indeed be appealed against, but it is a fact that the police exercise great *zulm* by instituting false cases under Act V. When Neul Ram Babu told the constable who had arrested him that he had committed no offence and that he could therefore insist on bail being taken for him, Bechu Singh, in reply, boasted that he had authority to *challan* even the Maharaja of Burdwan and Raja Sir Saurindra Mohan Tagore and keep them under custody for 24 hours.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
May 16th, 1906.

15. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 16th May expresses its heartfelt satisfaction at the withdrawal by Government of the prosecution at the Sessions Court of Midnapore against Khudiram Bose.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th, 1906.

16. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that separate proceedings have been drawn up both in the local Civil and Criminal Courts against the vakils and mukhtars of Pirojpur under the Legal Practitioners' Act, with the object of suppressing the *swadeshi* agitation there. The official explanation of these proceedings is that none of the vakils and mukhtars accepted a *vakalatnama* or *mukhtarnama* from one Purna Chandra Sarkar, a seller of foreign liquor at Pirojpur, and that they also boycotted Babu Umes Chandra Rai, mukhtar of the Court of Wards, for having accepted such a *mukhtarnama*.

**SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,**
May 17th, 1906.

17. Referring to the Jullundur cooly murder case, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th May says that this time it was not the deceased's spleen but his lungs which were responsible for his death, because the doctor says he died of pneumonia. The accused person, who is a European, is still at large.

(d)—Education.

SANDHYA,
May 17th, 1906.

18. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 17th May says that the Calcutta University has issued a circular ordering all teachers of schools within its jurisdiction to deliver lectures and exhibit lantern pictures on loyalty to their students on Empire Day. But, says the writer, one cannot be made to love by compulsion. The days are gone when Bengali students could be deceived by false histories and perverted representations of facts. Everyone now knows that the Englishman is extremely selfish and unsocial. The ruler and the ruled have known each other. Hypocrisy is, therefore, useless on either side.

9. A correspondent writes to the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May to say that Babu Isan Chandra Sil, an assistant master of the Dacca Collegiate School, has been transferred to a school of inferior class (a circle school) at Katalia in Tangail, because of the sympathy he showed for his students in connection with the *swadeshi* agitation.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th 1906.

The case of a teacher of the Dacca Collegiate school.

20. The same paper writes that a number of students of the Ananda School at Brahmanbaria have been fined sums, varying from two to five rupees, by their Head Master at the instigation of the local Magistrate for having attended a *swadeshi* meeting. Nowhere in the world is there any rule so barbarous as that making attendance at meetings punishable with fine. It is not a rule countenanced by British law or human morals, so nobody is bound to pay these fines.

SANJIVANI.

Attendance at a *swadeshi* meeting punished by fine.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

21. *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 17th May complains of the filthy and unrepaid condition of streets and lanes of the Shahabad town.

AL PUNCH,
May 17th, 1906.

22. Referring to the recent case of embezzlement of municipal money from the office of the Collector of the Calcutta Municipality, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May takes the higher authorities of the Municipality to task for lack of proper supervision and control over the work of their subordinates.

The Calcutta municipal embezzlement case.

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

23. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 19th May complains that the construction of a jetty at the Koila Ghat bathing-ghat in Calcutta has caused great inconvenience to bathers. The new ghat which has been constructed to take the place of the old one is too small to give comfortable accommodation to the hundreds of men and women who daily bathe at the place. Besides this, boatmen and others about the jetty pollute the water of the ghat.

The Koila Ghat bathing-ghat in Calcutta.

BANGAVASI,
May 19th, 1906.

24. The same paper says that cholera is raging virulently in the Hooghly, Midnapore, Burdwan, Birbhum, Murshidabad, and other districts of Bengal. In many villages the situation has become so horrible that dead bodies are being left uncremated for want of men. The cause of this widespread prevalence of cholera is attributed to unwholesome drinking water.

Cholera in Bengal.

BANGAVASI.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

25. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 12th May publishes a letter pointing out that the alignment of the Hooghly-Kutwa Railway extension now proceeding along the west bank of the Bhagirathi stream would, if undiverted, cross the Hijol *bhil* and thereby interfere with the drainage of that *bhil* into the main river, to the detriment of the health of the neighbouring villages. A diversion of the alignment to the west of the *bhil* is therefore suggested.

The Hooghly-Kutwa extension.

BANGAVASI
May 12th, 1906.

26. A correspondent of the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes for the information of the Railway Board that the collision which was averted lately at Shamsernagar station on the Assam-Bengal Railway, and for which the local gateman was blamed and dismissed, was due to the negligence of the Assistant Station Master (Jamini Babu by name), and it is insinuated that the real reason why Jamini Babu's guilt has not been brought home to him is that he has a brother, Babu Abinas Chander Ghose, as Head Clerk of the Traffic office of the line.

An averted railway collision on the Assam-Bengal Railway.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
May 17th, 1906.

27. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May writes that the timing of the train for Diamond Harbour which leaves Baliaghata station (Eastern Bengal State Railway, southern section) at 8-24 A.M. is inconvenient to those who travel from Calcutta to their homes at Magrahat

The southern section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

and the surrounding villages. To remove this inconvenience, either this particular train may be timed to leave Baliaghata at least an hour earlier, or the train which now leaves Baliaghata at 6.2 A.M., and runs up to Baraipore only, should be run to Diamond Harbour.

The correspondent concludes with a complaint that the abolition of the No. 121 evening up-train on Sundays has proved a source of great inconvenience to the travelling public.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 21st, 1906.

28. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st May writes that it has received letters relating to three recent cases of railway accident at Rampur Hat, at Memari (both on the East Indian Railway), and at Kodar (on the

Three recent cases of railway accident.

Madras Railway) which contain statements in regard to the number of casualties and to the conduct of the railway staff concerned in each case. A careful inquiry by the Railway Board is solicited.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
May 19th, 1906.

29. The *Howrah Hitaiishi* [Howrah] of the 19th May draws attention to the damage to crops which is being caused by the breach in the *band* between Amta and Mohisrakha, caused by a flood of the Kana stream two or three years ago.

30. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 19th May says that the proposed establishment of steam ferries on the Hooghly by the Commissioners of the port of Calcutta will bring ruin on the local *manjis* or boatmen.

BANGAVASI,
May 19th, 1906.

Proposed steam ferries on the Hooghly.

(h)—General.

PALLIVASI,
May 2nd, 1906.

31. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 2nd May publishes a poem in which it is said that Sir B. Fuller is throwing salt on the wounds which the Bengalis have received through

A poem.

the partition of their mother-country. Let him continue to oppress the people, remarks the writer. Let the people gain strength through bloodshed.

BIRBHUM
HITAIISHI,
May 14th, 1906.

32. The *Birbhum Hitaiishi* [Suri] of the 14th May says that the English rulers of India are entitled to only a small portion of the revenues of the country for protecting it against enemies, but they have been draining it

Government and the poverty of the country.

to such an extent that it has been reduced to extreme poverty, and it is high time that Government should try its best to resuscitate the arts and industries of the country in order to save it from utter ruin.

BIRBHUM
HITAIISHI.

33. The same paper says that the Puranic kings of India used to rule the Indians with parental care and immaculate truthfulness. But things have altered since those happy days, and to-day the English rulers of the country, whilst they try their best to maintain a polished exterior in its administration, aim at nothing but self-aggrandisement at the cost of the Indians. As a matter of fact, the wealth which used to be stolen by thieves in the much-abused olden days of misgovernment now goes to the coffers of the British Government.

The nature of the Government of India.

ARUN,
May 11th, 1906.

34. The *Arun* [Brahmanbaria] of the 15th May writes that the disgrace which the late incidents at Barisal have brought on the British name will live for ever in the public

The Barisal incidents.

mind. The barbarity which civilised English officials displayed on this occasion was such as one can hardly imagine even uncivilised, oppressive and illiterate men to be capable of. A *dakait* assaults citizens for the sake of his own interest, but no one on earth has yet been able to understand why the police at Barisal used their *lathis* on the innocent, unarmed and unsuspecting delegates. The cowardice and weakness which Government is displaying in this connexion is inconceivable. History offers few incidents to be compared to those at Barisal. Even the Black Hole affair does not after this seem so very serious a thing. The Black Hole massacre was brought about through ignorance; the assault by the police at Barisal was premeditated. The very body of men to whom the delegates would have gone for help if they had been attacked by thieves or *dakaites*, instead of doing the duty which they are paid to do, turned about and fell ferociously on the delegates like so many blood-thirsty tigers, and the Magistrate and (according to the testimony of

some) the Lieutenant-Governor himself stood by to see this hellish drama enacted. Alas for the times, that such things should be possible even under British rule!

35. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May stigmatises the official version of the Barisal incidents as altogether unsatisfactory. It dwells at large on possibilities of a breach of the peace, but lightly passes over the conduct of the police on the occasion. Why did not the police arrest the boys of the Anti-Circular Society instead of using *lathis* on their persons?

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

36. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 21st May writes as follows in English:—

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 21st, 1906.

The Barisal incidents. We have already given a succinct account of what took place at Barisal—how badly did the delegates fare at the hands of the local Executive, how they were assaulted when they were the least prepared for it, and how that lawful assembly was dispersed. We propose to-day to discuss some of the issues arising out of the whole affair.

Why were the delegates assaulted? Was not this assault an open violation of the existing laws of the land? If the delegates did anything wrong, if they were guilty of any offence punishable under the Penal Code or the Code of Criminal Procedure, they might have been hauled up before the Magistrate and dealt with according to law. There was no provocation whatsoever. They were marching peacefully in rows of two and three, leaving sufficient space for the passers-by. They did nothing that might necessitate the interference of the police. Granting for argument's sake that the delegates were guilty of an infringement of the Police Act, as they took part in a procession without license, were the police justified in taking the law into their own hands instead of bringing the offenders to justice? In that case the offenders ought to have been prosecuted in a court of justice and proper punishment meted out to them. That the whole affair was a premeditated one is patent from the reply that Mr. Kemp gave when Babus Mati Lal Ghosh, Bepin Chandra Pal and others offered themselves to be arrested along with Babu Surendra Nath Banerji. Thus the assault appears to have been premeditated, unprovoked, unjustifiable and illegal. It is really a pity that the Executive authorities at Barisal, with British instinct for justice and fair play, should be a party to it and thus bring a slur on the nation they belong to.

Why was Babu Surendra Nath alone arrested and not others? When the police were wielding their regulation *lathis* ceaselessly and indiscriminately, Babu Surendra Nath approached Mr. Kemp and informed him that he held himself solely responsible for the whole affair, whereupon he was arrested. The question again arises, why was Babu Surendra Nath singled out of the whole body of delegates? The question was, no doubt, not easy to answer. But it became as clear as anything when Mr. Kemp gave out the fact that his "instructions were to arrest Babu Surendra Nath only and none else." This statement of itself throws a flood of light on the whole situation. It conclusively proves that everything was pre-arranged and decided upon long before anything was actually done. Or why this special favour or disfavour—call it what you will—to Babu Surendra Nath?

Babu Surendra Nath was arrested and brought before Mr. Emerson, who at once proceeded with the case and dealt with him as it pleased him to do. The case was tried. It was a close holiday, the Civil and the Criminal Courts being closed for the Easter holidays. This case was of so momentous a nature and so many important questions relating to the administration and government of the country were involved in it that the Barisal autocrat did not think it worth his while to put it off; but, with commendable zeal, he decided the case with all practicable despatch. The accused was not allowed sufficient time to enter on his defence. Surendra Nath was in a manner condemned unheard. The legality or otherwise of the procedure adopted as well as the sentence pronounced will be determined by the higher tribunals in the land.

The summary dismissal of the complaints of some of the delegates against the police for assault and of a member of the Reception Committee charging Mr. Kemp, District Superintendent of Police, with criminal intimidation as the Conference was dispersed with threats of violence, prove the baneful

effect of the unification of the Judicial and the Executive functions in one and the same person. The assaulted delegates went to the *thana* to lodge their first information; but the *thanavallas* refused to record it for reasons of their own. Then the delegates approached the senior Deputy Magistrate of Barisal and filed a petition of complaint against the police. The poor Deputy, as he himself had the candour to admit, was divested of the power of trying cases of the kind. The standing order on him was, as he himself put it, to record the complaints and send them up to the Magistrate. So this clerk of a Deputy recorded the complaints of the two parties and sent them up to his superior, with the result stated above. The latter of these two cases establishes rather more strongly than anything else the dire necessity of the separation of the two functions. In one capacity, Mr. Emerson sits in judgment upon what he does in another capacity. It is he under whose orders the Conference is dispersed, and it is he who dismisses the complaint for unlawful dispersal of the Conference. In the face of such typical cases it is not too much to say that the longer these two sets of power remain vested in the same individual, the greater will be the chances of the abuse of power among the members of the Executive service.

Mr. Kemp entered the Conference *pandal* and asked the delegates to disperse. Was there inside the *pandal* a disorderly mob to be thus dispersed by the police? The Conference represented the wealth, intelligence and culture of Bengal, it represented the flower of the country. The very idea of such an assembly of leading men being dispersed by the police under a constitutional Government is highly repulsive, so much so that no civilised individual or nation can look upon such a job without a feeling of shame and indignation.

The *zubburdustism* at Barisal has brought about consequences which the Government would do well to take note of. It has convulsed the whole of India. Indignation meetings are being held in all the centres of public opinion through the length and breadth of the country. A common feeling of sympathy pervades the whole country from one end to the other.

Now, who is responsible for all these vagaries? Who is accountable for creating this feeling of unrest and alarm with regard to the safety of the person and property of the Indian people? Sir Bampfylde Fuller is washing his hands clean of the whole affair. If Sir Bampfylde had really no part to play in the matter, as His Honour alleges, Mr. Emerson must have done everything of his own motion. Mr. Emerson, of course, claims the authorship of the dispersal affair. Sir Bampfylde passes for a *zubburdust* ruler, a strict disciplinarian, making his individuality felt by all his subordinates, high or low, in all the departments. Under these circumstances, it is indeed passing strange that of all his lieutenants, Mr. Emerson would have the hardihood and boldness to act in the way he did without his permission or knowledge—expressed or implied, direct or indirect. If, however, Sir Bampfylde is sincere and if he is really desirous of dispelling all doubts from popular minds, we would request him to bring the erring officials seriously to book, so that it may serve as an object-lesson to others of the same kidney.

CHARU MIHIR,
May 16th, 1906.

37. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 15th May says that the low-class Musalmans of Eastern Bengal have been led to believe that, if at the present time, when the Hindu zamindars are in the bad graces of the officials on account of the *swadeshi* movement, they prefer complaints against their landlords, they will receive the support of the authorities and their purposes will be served. And a number of complaints against Hindu zamindars have actually been submitted to the District Magistrate of Mymensingh and even to the Lieutenant-Governor of the new Province by the Moslem inhabitants of the district.

CHARU MIHIR.

The disturbances in Mymensingh.

38. The following appears in the same paper under the heading "Terrible anarchy in Mymensingh":—

The poison tree which Sir Bampfylde Fuller planted with his own hand has at last begun to bear fruit. We do not know if Sir Bampfylde possesses the digestive power to digest these poisonous fruits, but unless the poison is soon destroyed, it will reduce new Bengal to a desert.

So long we had occasion only to express our sorrow at the degeneration of British statesmanship and at the police oppressions committed in Rajshahi, Mymensingh and Serajganj, and to shed tears over the Barisal incidents. But now we see a huge, hydra headed snake issuing out of the ground in Mymensingh and spreading its innumerable hoods in all directions.

In many places in Mymensingh the lower-class Musalmans have taken to committing so serious oppressions that British rule seems to have come to an end in those places. Musalmans form the bulk of the population in the Mymensingh district; and the lower class Musalmans are illiterate and devoid of any sense of right and wrong. In fact, the lower strata of the Musalman population of the district consist mainly of bad characters. For the last few months, the Musalman raiyats have been full of rebellious sentiments, and, at the present moment, they have suddenly become infuriated.

It is Sir Bampfylde Fuller who is responsible for this. The lack of impartiality in the administrative head of a province always produces such results. On assuming charge of the new Province, Sir Bampfylde saw that the Hindu community was carrying on a fierce agitation against the partition, and that that community was not giving him a fitting reception. On this, he embraced the Musalmans with affection and proclaimed that the Hindus would be deprived of his love and that Musalmans would be employed in larger numbers in the public service. And he proved his partiality for Musalmans in appointing Sub-Inspectors of Police.

We do not know whether in Dacca this bad policy issued from the fertile brain of Mr. Savage. Whoever might have originated it, Sir Bampfylde Fuller adopted to its fullest extent this policy of divide and rule in his new administration, and the police and the District Magistrates commenced carrying out the policy of their master. Mr. Clarke, Magistrate of Mymensingh, evinced great promptitude in doing this. The Hindus of Mymensingh began openly to be differently treated from the Musalmans. We have heard that on the day of the Burra Bazar occurrence on the 30th November last, the District Superintendent ordered the police not to beat the Musalmans. The same shameful partiality was observable in the filling of clerical appointments in the offices. Mr. Clarke found a pleasure in welcoming Musalmans at whom Englishmen would have looked with contempt before. The fining of the Kishorganj school-boys and the paying of the proceeds of the fine to the Anjumani Islamia is another illustration of the policy of divide and rule.

This extraordinary favouritism of the Government towards the Musalmans turned the latter's head. They thought that Government had taken their side. These illiterate Musalmans failed to see that Government was merely making use of them for a purpose, was showing them a sham partiality with the object of spiting the Hindus and striking at the root of the *swadeshi* agitation by estranging the Musalmans' sympathy from it.

Some light-headed Musalmans took advantage of this situation, and with the object of securing Government's favour, incited the lower-class Musalmans by false temptations and by false representations. They sent Maulvis from village to village and kindled the fire. At their incitement and having regard to the conduct of the officials, the illiterate and dull-headed Musalmans of Mymensingh came to believe that they would gain Government's favour by oppressing Hindus. This is the sole cause of the present Musalman rising in the Mymensingh district.

We do not know whether Mr. Clarke, Magistrate of Mymensingh, has fallen under the influence of any interested person. But the seeds of dissension that he has sown, since his coming to the district, among its Hindu and Muhummadan population will not bring forth beneficial fruits. He did not act with wisdom in the cow-slaughter affair. It has been proved in the Kusmail cow slaughter case that the officials were not above suspicion in the part they played in it. Mr. Clarke watches with a careful eye every movement of the Hindus and every ripple of the *swadeshi* agitation, but a book in Bengali entitled *Nawab Saheber Subichar* (the Nawab Saheb's justice), written by a Musalman, which was scattering the most powerful venom throughout the Province, failed to draw his notice. The book was sold in the court-yard of

the Mymensingh Criminal Court and attention was drawn to it in the columns of this paper (Report on Native Papers in Bengal for the week ending the 24th March, paragraph 7). A perusal of this book will enable every intelligent man to see in what light the Musalmans are taking the Government's favourable attitude towards them. Mr. Clarke was perfectly indifferent even at the beginning of the present troubles, and it is doubtful if his lethargy would have been removed at all if the Divisional Commissioner had not paid a visit to the town.

We repeat that the present troubles are the outcome of Sir Bampfylde's undue partiality for Musalmans and the instigation of some wicked Musalmans. Some months ago we warned Sir Bampfylde that he was playing with a venomous snake, and that if the short-sightedness of the officials incited the masses, the very foundation of the British Empire would be shaken. An enquiry should be made as to the extent to which the officials are responsible for the present troubles, and whether the fire has been secretly kindled by any particular Musalman. An impartial enquiry will bring to light many hidden facts, and we pray for such an enquiry. All will have to repent of the consequences, if the evil is not nipped in the bud.

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

The District Magistrate and the
Mymensingh riots.

39. Referring to the Musalman disturbances in Mymensingh, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May writes as follows:—

Understanding that the Musalmans contemplated an attack on his house, Babu Dinanath Chaudhuri, a pleader of the Mymensingh Bar and an inhabitant of the Kumarail village in the district, went to Mr. Clarke, the District Magistrate, and asked for police help. But, it is rumoured, the Magistrate said to him, "I believe you are a *swadeshi* agitator, or why should the Musalmans oppress you?" Such words from the mouth of a Magistrate prove beyond doubt that the Musalmans have been instigated by the authorities to commit oppressions on Hindus with the object of suppressing the *swadeshi* movement.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
May 16th, 1906.

The partial withdrawal of the
Lyon circulars.

40. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 16th May cannot regard the partial withdrawal of the Lyon circulars with any satisfaction, since, with the loosening of the fetters, there is a risk of the people going back to

their old state of contentment with things as they are.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
May 17th, 1906.

41. It is not known, says the *Sri Sri Vishnu-Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th May, whether Sir B. Fuller bore an old grudge against Babu Surendra Nath

Banerji, but the fact remains that the insult which the latter suffered at the hands of officials at Barisal has had a cooling effect on Sir Bampfylde's heated brain and has been followed by a withdrawal of the Lyon circulars. Sir Bampfylde has realised that on the occasion of the Barisal incident the natives showed great self-control. Had they allowed themselves to be excited at that time, Barisal town would have been turned into a bloody battle-field. May the Indians never allow brute force to obtain an ascendancy in their minds. Wisdom is the strength of men, while physical force is the instrument of beasts. No matter whether or not they were withdrawn, the Lyon circulars would never have been honoured or observed by the people of the country. Their withdrawal, however, implies some amount of credit to the intelligence of the Eastern Bengal and Assam Government.

RATNAKAR,
May 19th, 1906.

42. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 19th May writes that the utterance of *Bande Mataram* in public places in Eastern Bengal, though henceforth to be permitted, still continues fettered with some restrictions, the

imposition of which is due to the natural crookedness of Sir B. Fuller's mind. His Honour, since he has now at last been forced to come round, would have done better if he had made the change on his own initiative, impelled by his own sense of duty, in which case he might have earned the respect of the public.

BANGAVASI,
May 19th, 1906.

43. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 19th May says that the so-called partial withdrawal of Mr. Lyon's *Bande Mataram* circular does not alter the situation to any large degree, because the concession is qualified by the proviso that the cry will be allowed only so long as it does not endanger the public peace or displease the Musalmans. Sir B. Fuller, says the writer, will

Withdrawal of Mr. Lyon's
Bande Mataram circular.

do well to establish in every village a machine for measuring the limits within which the pitch of the cry *Bande Mataram* may legitimately range.

44. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 17th May takes the decision to re-admit students expelled from Government schools in connection with the *swadeshi* agitation

Mr. Morley's policy.

as furnishing an excellent indication of the foresight, intelligence, astuteness and statemanship of Mr. Morley. The sentiment which was being nourished and strengthened by oppression and *zulm* is now left to take its natural, unaided course. The paper concludes as follows:—

The way to salvation is being pointed out by the mother. Mr. Morley is beckoning to the path of self-interest, to the land of dreams. Bengalis, take your next step after thinking of the future. At this crisis, do not abandon the hope of the future, the great salvation.

45. With reference to a telegram published in a recent issue of the *Statesman* newspaper to the effect that the students who had been lately expelled from the Government

Mr. Morley's recent utterances.

schools in Bengal were to be reinstated unconditionally, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May writes that it is not evidently to the liking of the authorities that the students of this country be educated on national lines. Temptations like these will now confront the Bengali people in numbers. The question is whether they will be able to overcome them or not.

With reference to Reuter's recent telegram that it was the wish and intention of the Local and Indian Governments to act in a sympathetic and considerate spirit in view of the partition agitation and to take measures to allay excitement, the paper writes that people will not believe Mr. Morley sincere in his intentions of sympathy, and the national discontent of Bengal will not be really removed, unless the partition of Bengal, the primary cause of all the unrest, is annulled.

46. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May is glad that, in reply to a question asked by Sir Henry Cotton, Mr. Morley has announced that it is the intention of the Government to work in a spirit of sympathy with the

Sympathy with the anti-partition agitation.

anti-partition agitation.

47. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th May publishes an article headed "Cause for alarm," from which the following extracts are taken:—

"Cause for alarm."

Inactive, ease-loving, and lacking in energy as we are as a race, we do not try to get up from a recumbent position unless our hearts are trampled upon and ground under by somebody's iron-shod heels. Fortunately, the blows of Lord Curzon and Sir B. Fuller to a certain extent roused us from our idleness and some signs of life and animation re-appeared amongst us. We cannot say that we have been wholly waked up yet, for still, if we are permitted a little ease, if the fists of the officials cease to strike our backs even for a moment, our eyelids again gradually close. Such being the facts, will not the assuring words of the Secretary of State pave the way to our ultimate ruin?

What we have been praying for with all earnestness, upon which our very existence as a nation depends, we have not succeeded in getting. Mr. Morley is trying to delude us as little children with sweetmeats. He has stopped the real way to our advancement. We asked for the annulment of the partition of Bengal, he has evaded the settlement of that question by some means or other. We asked for an addition to the number of popularly elected members in the Viceroy's Legislative Council, he refused to grant that concession. Self-government on colonial lines was prayed for for India, and honest Mr. John Morley plainly expressed his opinion that that was impossible.

What, then, have we got from him? He has granted unasked what we did not pray for and the granting of which is calculated to do us more harm than good. He has ordered that all students expelled from Government schools in connexion with the *swadeshi* agitation should be re-admitted. By this single order he has given proof of possessing extraordinary foresight. He saw that the students who had been expelled from schools without justification, would be helped by their countrymen even if the Government stood in the way of their progress. Their expulsion from the State-recognised University was

SANDHYA,
May 17th, 1906.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 19th, 1906.

followed by the creation of a National University, to which a large number of schools have quickly affiliated themselves. Nothing can be a source of greater anxiety to the English than this.

It is unnecessary to point out that serious anxiety has been caused to the English by the self-awakening which has come to the Bengalis in consequence of the *swadeshi* agitation.

"The leisure, independence and high ideas which the enjoyment of this rent affords, has enabled them to raise Britain to the pinnacle of glory. Long may they enjoy it; but in India, that haughty spirit, independence, deep thought which the possession of great wealth sometimes gives ought to be suppressed. They are directly adverse to our power and interest. We do not want generals, statesmen and legislators, we want industrious husbandmen." So wrote Mr. Thacker a hundred years ago, and the ideas which he has expressed, if not admitted as plainly by officials nowadays, still guide their actions. There can be no doubt that a National University will instil in the minds of our young men manliness, a love of individuality, a deep thoughtfulness and other virtues. So there is nothing strange if the best efforts of far-sighted European officials are directed to seeing that our young men have as few inducements as possible to enter the National University. There can be no doubt that we can create greater alarm and anxiety in the minds of the English public by boycotting the State-recognised Universities than by boycotting English manufactures.

We have already said that we are an ease-loving people. Unless somebody provokes us, we do not wish to improve our condition. Thanks to the circulars and the *lathis* of the Lieutenant-Governor of the new province, signs of animation were becoming again visible in our insensible corpses. The order to withdraw the circulars and stop assaults with *lathis* has therefore given us real cause for alarm. We are afraid lest the temptation of a temporary period of rest should lead us to relax our strivings for the success of the *swadeshi* agitation—the one means of our advancement. We are like soft-hearted children who are diverted from their purposes if they get ever so little a measure of kind treatment. That is why we are so afraid of this kindness of the Indian Secretary of State.

BHARAT MITRA,
May 19th, 1906.

48. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 19th May says that Sir Bampfylde Fuller, whether at the instance of Mr. Morley or for some other reason, has relaxed his policy. He has given permission to the people of his Province to shout *Bande Mataram*. He is also considering the case of the *Weekly Chronicle*. His misrule has brought disgrace upon the prestige of British rule. Now, it is good that he should wipe out his stains.

The withdrawal of Eastern Bengal circulars.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th, 1906.

49. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May expresses the opinion that the officials in Sir B. Fuller's domains, who are all of them paid from revenues raised from the poor people of the country, are now neglecting their proper duties in order to devote themselves to the work of spies.

Officials under Sir B Fuller's Government.

BANGAVASI,
May 19th, 1906.

50. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 19th May says that Lord Minto's silence over the troubled state of affairs in Eastern Bengal shows that Sir B. Fuller has the support of His Excellency in the measures he has adopted there.

Lord Minto and Eastern Bengal affairs.

DACCA PRAKAS,
May 20th, 1906.

51. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 20th May writes that the manner in which the new Province is being governed has filled all with consternation in that Province. Everybody declares that laws and regulations have ceased to be in force in that territory. A feeling of suspicion of this kind in the mind of the governed against the governors is certainly not of happy augury to the country. It is now known that the wails of the poor do not reach the ears of the King-Emperor. People are therefore now thinking of looking for help to the King of Kings. Indians have always been a religious people. God will befriend them if they put their trust in Him.

The governors and the governed in the new Province.

HITVARTA,
May 20th, 1906.

52. Commenting upon the neutral attitude of the Government of India with respect to the oppressions which the Musalmans of Eastern Bengal are committing upon the Hindus,

The affairs in Eastern Bengal.

as the writer suspects, at the instigation of the local Government, the *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th May observes that on the occasion of the Hindu-Musalman cow-slaughter quarrels, Lord Elgin's Government used to give indulgence to the Musalmans simply with the object of oppressing the Hindus. But when the Musalmans went so far as to break the heads of the Hindus and the police indiscriminately, then the officials came to see their mistake. The present state of things in Eastern Bengal is likely to lead to a similar result. It is to be hoped that Lord Minto, having regard to the Mymensingh incident, will soon see his way to put down anarchy in Eastern Bengal.

53. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May refers in the following terms to Mr. Morley's recent announcement in Parliament (according to Reuter) to the effect that after the abolition of Cooper's Hill College, 10 per cent. of the Engineers to be appointed will be Indians.

Is such an arrangement just, considering that the country which the Engineers will serve in is the country of the Indians and the money out of which they will be paid is also paid by the Indians? Will it not be more just to appoint Europeans only when Indians are not available? But will Mr. Morley have the courage to act justly in this case?

54. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that it must be said to be a matter of serious misfortune that an Indian who accepts service under Government should be thereby deemed disqualified to serve the cause of his country in any way. It is not permitted by the regulations even to be present at a meeting. Such an arrangement is most discreditable to a Government like that of the British. It is most undesirable that such a wide difference between the interests of Government and those of the people, as is indicated by such an arrangement, should exist. Formerly, it used to be made a subject of complaint that Indians did not get service under the State in larger numbers. But it has now been found out that such regrets were not judicious. It is not beneficial to the country that its inhabitants should accept service under Government. It can only add to the number of sycophants. The country is deprived of the services of its best intellects in the development of its industries and its education.

55. Referring to the cases instituted against Mr. Jack, I.C.S., the Settlement Officer of Barisal, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May wonders how he dared ignore an order duly passed by a competent Civil Court. But everything, it seems, is strange in the dominion of the *Assami Lat*.

56. The same paper says that the proposed extension of the time now allowed for the discussion of the Budget in the supreme Legislative Council will do no good unless non-official members of the Council are granted the privilege of proposing amendments.

57. The same paper says that in view of the prevailing dearness of food-grains in the country, Government should grant grain-allowances to all its higher-class clerks on small pay, and that the rates of such allowances should be more liberal than those sanctioned for menials. It will not be just or reasonable to sanction the same rate for both menials and clerks.

58. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st May after announcing that Government has refused to put up a memorial tablet on the house in which the late Rai Dinabandhu Mitter Bahadur dwelt, goes on to connect this refusal with the fact that the Rai Bahadur was the author of a book (the *Nil Darpan*) which made a public exposure of the doings of the indigo planters of Bengal.

59. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 23rd May takes the recent refusal of Government to put up a memorial tablet on the house in which the late Rai Dinabandhu Mitter Bahadur lived, as a humiliation to the national feeling of the Bengalis, which they deeply resent, and which calls for a strong protest.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th, 1906.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA.
May 17th, 1906.

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

HITAVADI.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 21st, 1906.

SANDHYA,
May 23rd, 1906.

III.—LEGISLATION.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th, 1906.

60. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that no Bengali will agree to be a member of the proposed Legislative Council for Eastern Bengal and Assam, since none will admit that Bengal has been partitioned.

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

61. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May is glad that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has given its opinion against the Bengal Government's proposal that in elections of members for the Bengal Legislative Council, District Boards and Municipalities should have the right to vote for such candidates only as are members of those bodies.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
May 5th, 1906.

62. A correspondent of the *Howrah Hitaiishi* [Howrah] of the 5th May says that the prevalence of severe distress in the Backergunge district has increased the number of beggars in it. Petty thefts also have increased.

FARIDPUR HITAIISHINI,
May 14th, 1906.

63. The *Faridpur Hitaiishi* [Faridpur] of the 14th May writes that reports of scarcity of food are being received from different parts of the district of Faridpur, specially from the thanas of Mukshudpur, Gopalganj, Kotalipara, Ainpur, Bhanga, Belekandi and Pangsa. In no place are more than 7 or 8 seers of rice available for a rupee. Loans also are not easy to get, except at prohibitive rates of interest.

JASOHAR,
May 16th, 1906.

64. The *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 16th May writes that acute scarcity of food prevails all over the districts of Khulna and Jessore. There is not a single village which does not contain a number of inhabitants who are passing their days on one meal a day, and that meal not a full one either. The number of beggars is on the increase. Many householders are so badly off that they cannot afford washing-expenses and so cannot go out for want of clean raiment; they are also not unoften finding it difficult to pay school-fees for their boys and for milk for their infant children. Lights are put out early in the evening to economise the cost of oil as far as possible. The situation is such that it behoves the District Magistrates concerned to see things with their own eyes by means of tours in the villages, and not to trust to the reports of the chaukidars.

Along with scarcity of food, scarcity of water is also being felt. As a consequence, cholera and small-pox have broken out in parts of the districts. The condition of the cattle is most deplorable for lack of pasture in the fields. They are also dying in numbers in places as a result of drinking polluted water heated at noon by the sun's rays, while out grazing in the bare fields.

*SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA*,
May 17th, 1906.

65. Referring to the Government's grants for police reform, the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th May says that nowadays the best efforts of the Government seem to be directed towards increasing the police and military forces in the country. But as regards the severe distress which prevails almost all over India, the authorities are altogether indifferent.

BANGAVASI,
May 13th, 1906.

66. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 19th May reports prevalence of severe famine in the Nadia district. Rice, paddy, wheat, pulses and even vegetables have become extremely dear. People are passing days without food. Unable to bear the sight of starvation in his family, a *palki*-bearer, an inhabitant of the Abhayapur village under the Karimpur thana, committed suicide by hanging himself. People are applying by hundreds to the Sub-divisional Officer of Meherpur, Babu Sukumar Datta, for relief. The earth-work of the Krishnagar-Jalangi Light Railway should be at once taken in hand as a measure of relief.

BANGAVASI.

Distress in a village in the Sonthal Parganas.

67. A correspondent of the same paper reports prevalence of severe distress in the Maluti village in the Sonthal Parganas.

68. Another correspondent of the same paper reports prevalence of severe scarcity of food and drinking water in the Betai village within the Meherpur subdivision of the Nadia district.

BANGAVARI.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

69. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi* [Murshidabad] of the 24th April publishes a letter extolling the Bengali book *Deser Katha*, by Pandit Sakharan Ganes Deoskar, as one which it is as incumbent a duty of all Bengalis to study as the *Gita* itself. By reading it one will get an idea of the selfishness, meanness and cowardice of the English rulers.

MURSHIDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
April 24th, 1906.

70. Encouraged by our weakness, says the *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 5th May, the English are trying to crush us and interfering with our religious and social freedom. Under cover of a false show of generosity, honesty and healthy civilisation, the English are going to suck even the last drop of the life-blood of the unwary Indians through their administration and their commerce. But they have been found out, and we now fully realise that we and the Europeans stand in the relation of the victim and the oppressor (the eatable and the eater). And we have, therefore, become prepared to avenge the injuries and insults done and offered to us by the English. The assault which the other day we suffered at their hands will be avenged by a severe boycott of English goods.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
May 5th, 1906.

71. The *Swadesh* [Calcutta] of the 7th May writes as follows:—
The remembrance of our former glory makes us always unhappy and unable to appreciate the advantages of the English administration. The thought that while other nations on the face of the earth are acquiring glory and rising in greatness, we remain degraded and lifeless, is galling to us. The railways, electric installations, steam engines, educational institutions, etc., in India are fruits of English labour and enterprise, and have nothing in them in which we can feel glory. The present system of administration in the country which has concentrated all power in the Government is making our rulers tyrannical and oppressive, and consequently we do not like it. But in spite of these, we should remember that we are solely indebted to the English Government for the present healthy flow of our national life. And it is certain that under the protection of the English we shall in future be able to make great advancement. We should, therefore, draw the attention of English officials to our wants and grievances with modesty and meekness and, failing to obtain redress from them, should approach Parliament and the Secretary of State for India.

SWADESH,
May 7th, 1906.

72. The *Yugantar* [Calcutta] of the 13th May publishes a poem in which the spirit of Pratapaditya of Bengal is invoked to sanctify with blood the bodies of the Bengalis, who are said to be oppressed by a fearful demon (*asur*).

YUGANTAR,
May 13th, 1906.

73. The *Pabna Hitaishi* [Pabna] of the 16th May asks if the sun has received an order from Sir B. Fuller to oppress the people of Bengal, for while His Honour is sucking their life-blood, the sun is sucking their drinking water.

PABNA HITAIISHI,
May 16th, 1906.

74. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May writes that the *swadeshi* spirit has obtained a strong hold on the minds of all sections of the population at Nageswari Mokam in Kurigram in the Rangpur district.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th, 1906.

75. The same paper relates how Khudiram Basu, the lad who was being prosecuted for sedition at Midnapore, was ovated by the local schoolboys when he was acquitted.

SANJIVANI.

76. The same paper announces that on the evening of the 5th May last, through the initiative of Babus Bilas Chandra Sen, Panchkari Sarkar and Radhikamohan Turafdar, a meeting was held of persons engaged in the

SANJIVANI.

salt trade in Calcutta, at which it was decided that the *mahajans* of Mullik Bazar in Karrya would not any more import Liverpool or Hamburg salt.

SANJIVANI.

77. The same paper reports that at a meeting at village Baisari on the 5th May last, a Musalman present stood up and declared that from that day forward all *bilatee* goods were to be *haram* i.e., forbidden) to the Musalmans and that to Hindus they were to be like beef.

A Musalman on the boycott.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BASAN PATIKA,
May 17th, 1906.

78. A correspondent of the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th May says that *bilatee* salt, sugar, etc., have been practically expelled from the Pabna market.

The boycott in Pabna.

SANJIVANI,
May 17th, 1906.

79. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 17th May reiterates its belief that the partition of Bengal is sure to be annulled if the Bengalis continue to serve their mother-country with firmness.

The partition.

BIHAR BANDHU,
May 17th, 1906.

80. Commenting upon Lord Curzon's administration, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 17th May says that no Viceroy had adopted so many measures to oppress the Indian people as Lord Curzon had. Mr. Brodrick,

Lord Curzon's administration criticised.

the Conservative Secretary of State for India, who was a tool in the hands of Lord Curzon, did absolutely nothing with respect to India beyond what the latter said. His successor, Lord Minto, who, the Indians supposed, would allay their sufferings, has supported his predecessor's actions. When the Liberal Ministry had assumed their power, the Indians hoped that Mr. Morley, the Liberal Secretary of State for India, would do something at least in favour of India. Since the British nation has assumed the rule of India, its material condition is becoming gradually deplorable. But it is in fact useless for India to have the least idea that she, under the English ruler, can possibly derive any benefit. A ruler who has always the thirst of territorial extension will do no good at all. The future rise and fall of the country largely depends upon its children. They can do something if they like. They have not much independence, but if even the small amount of independence enjoyed by them be conscientiously used, they can do much good to the country.

HITAVADI,
May 18th, 1906.

81. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 18th May says that a national school was established at Comilla on the occasion of Babu Bipin Chandra Pal's recent

A national school at Comilla.

visit to that town.

HITAVADI.

82. The same paper reports with satisfaction that the pleaders, mukhtars, physicians and other educated men in Jessore town have resolved to boycott shops dealing in *belatee* salt and sugar.

The *swadeshi* in Jessore town.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
May 19th, 1906.

83. The *Howrah Hitaiishi* [Howrah] of the 19th May publishes a poem, printed copies of which, it says, are being sold, at Barisal, exhorting the giving up of the use of things British.

A poem in connexion with the *swadeshi* movement.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 20th, 1906.

84. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 20th May says that the failure of brute force to suppress the *swadeshi* movement has led the authorities to adopt a policy of conciliation in respect to it. Repressive circulars have been

Government and the *swadeshi* movement.

withdrawn and the swords which were suspended over the heads of the Bengalis have been put back into their scabbards. The authorities have even gone so far as to express themselves in favour of the *swadeshi*. It is now that the movement is in real danger of being suppressed. So long official oppressions and persecutions served to keep the minds of the people in a constant state of antagonism against the Government, with the result that they all rallied round the country's cause in utter disregard of all danger. But now that the authorities have turned smiling faces towards the movement, there is the danger that the people of the country may relapse into their former lethargy and indifference to questions of national prosperity. The time has, therefore, come when the Bengali's devotion to his mother-country will be put to the test, and one will know who are sincere patriots and who are not. It, therefore, behoves every son of Bengal to stick to the *swadeshi* movement at this time

and not lose the present opportunity of furthering its cause under the influence of official favour.

85. The *Hitvarta* [Calcutta] of the 20th May is glad to say that, as a result of boycott, the sale of foreign sugar and salt has been remarkably diminished in the Jessore

Boycott in Jessore.

district, and that the pleaders and mukhtars are making solemn promises to abjure foreign goods.

86. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 21st May writes as follows:—

HITVARTA,
May 20th, 1906.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 21st, 1906.

"What shall we do now?"

What shall we do now? Let not the pleasure we experience to-day in having obtained grace from our rulers make us forget our duties, and weaken our practical good sense. We have gained nothing new from the sympathy and kindness of heart of the Indian Secretary of State. Maddened with anger, and exulting in the possession of brute force, Sir Bampfylde Fuller under the influence of pride made before us a fearful exhibition of the power of Government. What the prudent Secretary of State has now done to us may be regarded as an act of mercy shown, inasmuch as he has, in the interests of British rule, at least screened off from view that fearful aspect of administrative rigour.

We have not up to the present obtained any new evidence of the Emperor's affection for his subjects. The Indian Secretary of State has made no new arrangement of any kind for our benefit. Divided Bengal remains divided; in the high-ways and bye-ways of India dogs and jackals still continue dragging about the corpses of unfortunate men who have died from starvation; cries of 'Alas! Where is food?' still continue to rise from the different provinces of the Empire. The pitiful appeals, and the desire for the acquisition of just rights of the Indian people still continue to be neglected and trampled on; the starving people are being still bled to provide for constantly increasing military expenditure, exchange compensation, and fat salaries to the officials. The way of advancement and the path of high education still remain to the Indian as full of obstacles as before; the hearts of black men still continue to be pierced by shots from Martini-Henri rifles fired through mistake or temporary madness by white men; the weak livers of black natives still continue to be shattered by kicks from white men's legs; the villagers are still suffering acute misery from dire thirst from want of drinking water; malaria, plague and other epidemics still continue year by year to levy their toll of untimely deaths; the authorities still continue to observe distinctions of colour in their public acts. The Indians are still waiting for their proper dues in the matter of the government of their own country. So nothing has yet happened to make us mad with joy.

Then alone will come the time of proper rejoicing to us, when the interests of the governors and governed in India will have been become wholly one; when the rulers will look with favour on the ruled, and use their best endeavours for their progress in health, wealth and happiness, and when prosperity will have been restored to the trade of the country. Until that auspicious day dawns, and so long as we continue to be strangers in our own land, so long let us not forget even for a moment our hapless lot, so long let us not become remiss in the fulfilment of our promises and duties.

87. The same paper writes:—

DAILY HITAVADI.

"The effects of agitation."

At last our agitation has produced visible effects. Eight months of agitation have succeeded in shaking the unshakeable seat of the Indian Secretary of State. The sort of ease and happiness which the people of this country are living in, under the rule of the Government of India, is now being discussed. The authorities are first trying to please us by distributing one or two small favours. We have now come to understand which path it is that, if followed, would lead to the attainment of our objects.

A century and a half of contact has taught us one trait in the character of the English people, and that is, that on their own initiative they will not grant us political rights of any kind. We cannot expect even the pettiest right from them unless we can bring compulsion to bear in some way or other. The Indian Minister would not have interfered with the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam unless there had been agitation both in India and in England. If we cease agitating now, it will mean the simultaneous cessation of all hopes of progress in future.

SANDHYA,
May 22nd, 1906.

88. Referring to the coming Sivaji festival in Calcutta, the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 22nd May writes as follows:—

The coming Sivaji festival. In the festival will be depicted the high ideal of Sivaji's life. The Aryan race with its religious principles inculcating the practice of self-control on its members is sure to triumph in the long run and impart strength and vitality to the social systems of other human races on earth by its spiritual light. In the festival there will be the image of the MOTHER (the goddess Durga) riding the lion and at her feet will be the image of Sivaji in a position to shoot. At a distance will be Swami Ramdas (Sivaji's religious preceptor and adviser) seated on a tiger's skin in a cave of an artificial mountain. What an enchanting sight it will be! When the Maharaj (Sivaji) will be crowned, everyone will see in his mind's glass an image of the future triumph of the Aryans. There will be festivities in the town for three days. There will be exhibitions of plays with *lathis* and a big *mêla* of *swadeshi* articles will be held. This time there will be no more speechification. The moral of Sivaji's life will be instilled into every heart.

URIYA PAPERS.

MANORAMA,
May 7th, 1906.

89. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 7th May states that the temperature is rising day by day.

The weather in Baripada.

The same paper of the 14th May makes a similar statement with this addition that slight rain, accompanied by wind, fell in Baripada last week.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
May 10th, 1906.

90. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 10th May states that the temperature is rising and that agricultural operations have been suspended for want of rain.

The weather in Balasore.

The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 9th May states that the temperature is high, and that though the sky sometimes becomes cloudy, there is no rain.

GARJATBASINI,
May 12th, 1906.

The weather in Angul.

91. The Angul correspondent of the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 12th May states that the temperature is high.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 9th, 1906.

92. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 9th May states that there is a great want of drinking water in many parts of Jalasore in that district.

Want of drinking water in Balasore.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

93. The same paper points out that the purchasing power of the rupee having been very much reduced, people of the middle classes who have taken to service suffer from the high prices of rice and other necessities of life.

The economic condition of the middle classes.

GARJATBASINI,
May 12th, 1906.

94. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 12th May states that paddy is issued on loan every day from the granaries of the Raja of that State to about 50 or 60 tenants, who

Relief in Talcher.

thus tide over their present difficulties.

GARJATBASINI.

95. The same paper states that the Raja of Kanika is causing a tank to be excavated in his *killa*, which gives work to about 2,000 coolies every day.

Relief work in Kanika.

MANORAMA,
May 7th, 1906.

96. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 7th May states that cholera prevails in a terrible form in Bhograi, Birkol, Kakhra, Sahabunder and other parganas in the

Cholera in Balasore.

Balasore district and that about 200 villages in the pargana of Bhograi alone are suffering from that disease. As the disease is becoming more and more formidable every day, the writer draws the immediate attention of the authorities to the matter.

The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 9th May makes a similar statement with regard to the Jalasore subdivision of the Balasore district.

A correspondent of the same paper draws an equally sad picture of the cholera-stricken parts of Balasore and adds that the medical help that is being rendered at present through the exertions of Raja Baikuntha Nath De Bahadur and the Magistrate of Balasore is quite inadequate, and observes that better and more effective medical help is necessary.

- Measles and dysentery in Balasore. 97. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 10th May states that measles and dysentery prevail in that district. SAMVAD VAHIKA, May 10th, 1906.
- Public health in Angul. 98. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 12th May states that the general health of the Angul town is good. GARJATBASINI, May 12th, 1906.
- Cholera in Baripada. 99. The same paper states that cholera prevails in Baripada in Mayurbhanj. GARJATBASINI.
- Public health in Dhenkanal. 100. The same paper states that Dhenkanal is not as yet free from cholera. GARJATBASINI.
- Public health in Kera. 101. The same paper states that fever and cold prevail in Kera. GARJATBASINI.
- Improved sanitation needed in Jalasore. 102. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 9th May points out that improved sanitation is urgently needed in the Jalasore thana of the Balasore district, where about 25 persons are dying per week through cholera and other diseases. URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD, May 9th, 1906.
103. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 7th May states that a great fire destroyed a house in the Dhenkanal Press, causing a loss of property worth Rs. 1,200. MANORAMA, May 7th, 1906.
- A fire in Dhenkanal. 104. The same paper of the 14th May states that 35 persons died of cholera in Ichhapur in Ganjam. MANORAMA.
- Cholera in Ichhapur. 105. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 12th May states that several houses were burnt down by fire in Bamra, whereby property worth Rs. 1,000 was destroyed. GARJATBASINI, May 12th, 1906.
- Fire in Bamra. 106. The same paper states that a great fire took place in village Lokapara in Aul, destroying about 30 houses. GARJATBASINI.
- A fire in Aul. 107. The same paper regrets to notice the death of Sudarsan Das Parohit Mahapatra, a Brahmin gentleman of Angul, who had rendered useful services to the people of that district. In him the Brahmin Samiti of Angul has lost an able advocate of their cause. GARJATBASINI.
- An obituary notice. 108. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 14th May states that the police administration of Marura pargana in Mayurbhanj is far from satisfactory. Instead of a Sub-Inspector of Police being stationed there, a Head Constable discharges all the duties of the Sub-Inspector. The old Head Constable of that place was punished for taking bribes. The writer hopes that Mr. Kiddel, the Police Superintendent, and the Maharaja will see their way to place a good and efficient Sub-Inspector in charge of the Marura pargana and to create two more outposts in Amarda and Narangabad in the interests of the public peace. MANORAMA, May 14th, 1906.
- Police administration in Mayurbhanj criticised. 109. A correspondent of the same paper states that the chaukidar of Dariha in thana Baisinga in Mayurbhanj admitted before the Writer-Constable that he did not attend to his duties for three months, though he was paid for the period. The collecting panchayet of that village is said to have mismanaged the fund that was placed at his disposal. MANORAMA.
- Chaukidar and village panchayet neglecting their duties in Mayurbhanj. 110. A correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 9th May says that at about 7 P.M. on Thursday, the 5th April last, when the mixed passenger train from the Kharda Road junction arrived at Puri and the platform was being cleared of the passengers, two women, one a Brahmin, aged about 22, and the other a Sudra, aged about 25, were not allowed by the ticket-collector, who was checking tickets at the door, to go out, on the allegation that they were travelling with wrong tickets. After all the passengers had left the platform, the ticket-collector, with his assistants, conducted the ladies to a ticket-shed, where their modesty was forcibly outraged. It is said that two Bengal Police constables were in pursuit of the ticket-collector and his party though they failed to arrest the offenders. The correspondent hopes that the railway authorities will institute a searching
- The modesty of two female passengers outraged in Puri. URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD, May 9th, 1906.

enquiry into the alleged offences, punish the offenders, and make the recurrence of such offences in future impossible.

GARJATBASINI,
May 12th, 1906.

111. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 12th May notices the proceedings of the Talcher police co-operation meeting, held at Talcher, which was attended by police officers belonging to Angul and other States. The writer regrets that the Dhenkanal police officers failed to attend the meeting, and excepting the Angul and Talcher Police Sub-Inspectors, no other Sub-Inspector was present in the meeting. The writer hopes that the co-operation meeting of the police officers, if carried on steadily and successfully, will confer a great boon on the Garjat public.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 12th, 1906.

112. Referring to the resignation of the post of Honorary Magistrate by Mr. S. N. Banerji, as a sequel to the proceedings of the Barisal Conference, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 12th May observes that unless the high-handed and oppressive rule introduced in Eastern Bengal is softened or abolished, no gentleman would consider it worth while to serve under the Government in any honorary capacity.

GARJATBASINI,
May 12th, 1906.

113. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 12th May states that the *Annaprasan* ceremony held in honour of the son of the Raja of Aul at that place on the 30th of March last was celebrated with great éclat. Hundreds of the poor were fed and clothed. Fireworks, theatres, and *nautches* graced the occasion. Nearly 8,000 visitors were present. The proceedings passed off quietly without any hitch or hindrance.

MANORAMA,
May 14th, 1906.

114. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 14th May is glad to learn that the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj paid Rs. 50 to Mr. Sasibhusan Nath, the Head-Master of Bara Khemedi School, with a view to help him in the study of arts at Madras.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 9th, 1906.

115. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 9th May thanks Babu Kailas Chandra Rai Mahasaya of Dehurda, the Harisabha of Dehurda, Raja Baikuntha Nath De Bahadur of Balasore, and his naib Babu Ambika Charan De for their liberality in distributing medicines to the sick in the Baliapal thana of the Balasore district during the prevalence of cholera in that thana.

GARJATBASINI,
May 12th 1906.

116. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 12th May is glad to inform the public that the Raja of Bara Khemedi in Ganjam has made a present of paddy worth Rs. 60 to Srimati Annapurna, the Uriya poetess, and her husband, and observes that the poor poetess deserves encouragement at all hands.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 12th, 1906.

117. The *Utkaldipika* [Calcutta] of the 12th May exhorts the Uriya public to make donations in favour of the Rajkumari Leper Asylum at Deogarh, as the institution stands in need of public help.

MANORAMA,
May 7th, 1906.

118. The *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 7th May bitterly complains that Mayurbhanj has become Bengali-ridden and has turned out to be the refuge of those Bengalis who do not find any employment in their own country. The writer longs for the day when Mayurbhanj will be free from the influence of the Bengalis and when the Maharaja will cease to be a tool in their hands.

MANORAMA.

119. The same paper publishes a satire in which the Uriya is represented as a lamb and the Bengali as a goat. The satire contains writings and sentiments which go to accentuate the already existing ill-feeling between Uriyas and Bengalis.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 9th, 1906.

120. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 9th May, which represents the interests of the domiciled Bengalis, brings the charge of illiberality and narrow-mindedness against the *Utkaldarpan*, which represents the interests of the Uriyas in Sambalpur, and observes that the editor of the

latter paper is determined to injure the cause of the Bengalis. The writer is of opinion that the domiciled Bengalis have grievances which should be redressed at once.

121. A correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 12th May makes it public that big Bengali officers serving in Mayurbhanj generally admit their brothers, brothers-in-law, sons, sons-in-law, nephews, uncles, distant and near relatives and friends into service in various ways and thus strengthen the Bengali colony in Mayurbhanj under the plea of ability and efficiency. The correspondent then gives instances of jobberies that are committed in different departments of the Mayurbhanj State to preserve and strengthen the omnipotent influence of the Bengalis in that State.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 12th, 1906.

122. The same paper is glad to find that the *swadeshi* wave has swept over the land of Ind. Even the priests and ministers, who were hitherto lying unnoticed, have risen equal to the occasion and have ruled that they will not serve those families who will not use *swadeshi* articles. The writer hopes that those who have taken the *swadeshi* vow will not break it in any way.

UTKALDIPIKA.

123. A correspondent of the *Manorama* [Baripada] of the 7th May suggests that the Utkal Sahitya Samaj, which has come to be recognised as a branch of the Utkal Union Conference, should help the monthly magazines that are published in Orissa and thereby improve their quality and increase their circulation and utility.

MANORAMA,
May 7th, 1906.

The Baripada branch Committee of the Utkal Union Conference held a meeting to change their Secretary, who, in the opinion of the Committee, had become old and decrepit. The presence of Mr M. S. Das, C.I.E., in Mayurbhanj has infused vigour and vitality into the members of the branch Committee.

A correspondent of the *Manorama* [Baripada] on the 14th May finds fault with the expressions which the office bearers connected with the Utkal Union Conference used in the letters and addresses that were sent by them to their constituents, friends and sympathisers.

The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 10th May suggests that the Utkal Union Conference should try to extend its influence over the large number of Uriya coolies working in Calcutta in different mercantile firms and to improve their condition. The Uriya coolies are represented to be made of good and hopeful materials, for they recently united together in demanding and exacting better wages from Marwari and English merchants in Calcutta.

124. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 12th May draws the attention of the Commissioner of Orissa to the fact that the notification issued by him in connexion with fresh municipal election in Cuttack is not legal, for it does not give time to new candidates who desire to apply for the post of Municipal Commissioner. This defect, if not removed, may give rise to difficulties in the future, as such difficulties were experienced on a former occasion.

UTKALDIPIKA,
May 12th, 1906.

125. The same paper approves of the action of the meeting, held in Commissioner's office building, Cuttack, in connection with proposed students' messes to be attached to educational institutions in different parts of the Province and observes that a students' mess attached to each school or college may do immense good, and that though good houses may not be procured in the first instance, such houses will no doubt be available in the course of time.

UTKALDIPIKA.

ASSAM PAPERS.

126. The *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 16th May writes about the desirability of opening a dispensary at Patharkandi in the Karimganj subdivision of Sylhet. It is urged that it is a large and densely-peopled village with a bazar, a zamindari cutcherry, a Sub-Registrar's office, a school, a forester's office, a telegraph and

PARIDARSAN,
May 16th, 1906.

post office, a thana and a dâk bungalow, etc., and that malaria and cholera prevail in its neighbourhood with no little severity very often. In conclusion, it is pointed out that the officers of the zamindari cutcherry referred to above are prepared to contribute a certain sum towards the cost of some work of public utility, which, if Government so desires, may well be utilised for the purpose of a charitable dispensary.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 26th May 1906.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 26th May 1906.

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(A)—General—	
Nil.		The Barisal affair	236
		Ditto ditto	ib.
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		The Secretary of State and affairs in Eastern Bengal and Assam	236
(a)—Police—		Ditto ditto	ib.
Nil.		Ditto ditto	237
		Ditto ditto	ib.
		Ditto ditto	ib.
		Ditto ditto	ib.
		Ditto ditto	ib.
		Ditto ditto	ib.
(b)—Working of the Courts—		The Mymensingh raid	238
The Darjeeling murder case	233	An invidious distinction	ib.
The sensational Rajshahi municipal case	ib.		
Ditto ditto	ib.	III.—LEGISLATION.	
Ditto ditto	ib.	District Boards and the Legislative Council	238
The Midnapore sedition case	234	Ditto ditto	ib.
Ditto ditto	ib.	The Assam Legislative Council	ib.
Ditto ditto	ib.	Ditto ditto	ib.
Ditto ditto	ib.	Ditto ditto	ib.
The Jullundur <i>punkha</i> -coolie case	ib.		
Criminal and civil cases instituted against Mr. Jack, Settlement Officer	ib.	IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
Ditto ditto	235	A recent Foreign Office circular	239
Administration of justice in the new Province	ib.		
The High Court and the transfer of cases	ib.	V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.	
		Nil.	
(c)—Jails—		VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.	
Nil.		Honorary posts	239
(d)—Education—		The defence of India	ib.
Boycotting students at Kishoreganj	235	Our methods of operation	240
		The new forces	ib.
(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—		The <i>Pioneer</i> and the students	ib.
The Health Officer's case	236	How to allay the excitement	ib.
Are we being poisoned?	ib.	The Secretary of State	ib.
		Want of sympathy and knowledge at the root of the present discontent	241
(f)—Questions affecting the land—		The Prince of Wales at the Guildhall	ib.
Nil.		Ditto ditto	ib.
(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—		The Native Press	ib.
Nil.		The invisible hand	ib.

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

647. The *Bengalee* entirely agrees with the Sessions Judge that the late Mr. Goss's "looseness of conduct was the cause of his death." The public, however, are concerned not so much with this as with the way in which the case was investigated by the police. The accused Gumadoz made two confessions to the Deputy Commissioner. It was recorded that these confessions were voluntary. Gumadoz, however, has been acquitted and the confessions rejected by the Judge and jury. Then, again, the accused's wife, after 3½ hours of fasting, told the police that her husband had confessed to having committed the crime. The evidence of the prosecution on this point was also rejected. The police produced still another witness who stated that he and Gumadoz went to Mr. Goss's bungalow together by a certain route and met Panchay at a certain spot near the bungalow. When, however, the Deputy Commissioner asked Gumadoz and Panchay to show him the route taken and the spot where Panchay was, one after another, they pointed out altogether different routes and different spots. This clearly reveals the object of the police investigation, and it is absolutely necessary that such methods should be effectually put a stop to. The case has many ugly traits, and the public await the action of the Bengal Government with great eagerness.

BENGALIE,
17th May 1906.

648. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* reverts to this case because it is extraordinary and has many curious features. Sub-Inspector Kafiluddin Ahmad, who recorded the statement of the informant, stated on oath that the latter complained against the driver of the bullock cart alone and "charged no one else." This was on the 21st March. Why, then, was the Vice-Chairman arrested on the 24th and the Chairman on the 29th idem? The Sub-Inspector himself states that he cannot remember whether he got any evidence against them and is likewise unable to say why he did not send the Chairman up along with the Vice-Chairman! Clearly Kafiluddin was being manipulated by the Magistrate. The trial of the case, however, is no less scandalous than the investigation. On the 2nd April, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman asked that they might be excused from attending Court personally. This prayer was rejected, but was subsequently granted (nine days later) *unasked*. Why? Clearly the case was the outcome of malice and the defence said so, but the trying Magistrate dismissed the allegation as "unfounded and uncharitable." No other course was open to him but to refute the malicious character of the prosecution, but this does not alter the facts, and Sir B. Fuller's order directing the withdrawal of the case leaves the District Magistrate of Rajshahi no loophole to escape from the charge of vindictiveness. The humiliation has been his and not the Chairman's and the Vice-Chairman's.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th May 1906.

649. *Power and Guardian* observes that the Rajshahi municipal scandal affords a brilliant instance of the vindictiveness to which officialdom in the new Province can stoop. *Ibid.* Is it possible to believe that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Municipality were criminally prosecuted and convicted for the alleged fault of a carter in using a diseased bullock? The very fact that Sir B. Fuller ordered the District Magistrate to drop the prosecution, exposes the immorality of the proceedings, which are clearly attributable to the unwillingness of the Municipality to present an address of welcome to Sir B. Fuller. This undoubtedly is the first case of its kind, and the humiliating circumstances demand that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should resign their offices.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
20th May 1906.

650. The *Indian Empire* writes that the Rajshahi municipal case which has just ended in the conviction of the Chairman and the carter who is alleged to have used a diseased bullock, presents some extraordinary features. Why was the Chairman prosecuted for the alleged offence of the carter? A master cannot be held liable for the acts of his servant? This is the established rule everywhere except in the new Province. The whole affair was so scandalous that even

INDIAN EMPIRE,
22nd April 1906.

Sir B. Fuller directed the Magistrate to drop the prosecution, but unfortunately the order arrived too late. The journal hopes that the sentence will not be allowed to stand, and that an appeal will be preferred to the High Court.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th May 1906.

651. Considering the flourish of trumpets with which the prosecution of the boy Khudiram, of Midnapore, on a charge of sedition was announced, the unexpected collapse

The Midnapore sedition case. of the case strikes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* as strange. The plea put forward for the withdrawal of the case was the tender age of the accused who, it was alleged, was a tool in the hands of others. Why did these considerations not deter the authorities from entering upon a scandalous prosecution which appears to have been sanctioned after mature deliberation by the Bengal Government? What has the Government gained either by the institution of the case or its withdrawal? Nothing. In any case it would have put itself in a false position. The people have scored again.

BENGALIEE,
18th May 1906.

652. The *Bengalee* observes that the Secretary of State's disapproval of the Russian methods of the "authorities on the spot," has had an excellent effect. The case against

Ibid. Khudiram, the young rebel, has been withdrawn, which was perhaps not wholly unexpected. No one who was responsible for this 'idiotic' prosecution has emerged with credit, and it is hoped that the 'official proboscis' will not sniff sedition in the air again.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
20th May 1906.

653. *Lower and Guardian* notices with pleasure that the 'idiotic' prosecution of the boy Khudiram has been dropped. Was

Ibid. it seriously thought that a lad of 15 years was impelled by seditious motives? His action was at best a schoolboy freak, but for this he was subjected to all the horrors of a State prosecution. Truly the times are out of joint!

INDIAN EMPIRE,
22nd May 1906.

654. The *Indian Empire* writes that no Government, unless it was panic-stricken, could have thought of sanctioning the prosecution of a 15-year old boy on a charge

Ibid. of sedition. But nevertheless this absurd step was actually taken by the Government of Sir A. Fraser, an 'old and sedate' ruler! The result has been defeat and humiliation, for the Government has been compelled to withdraw from the prosecution, possibly on account of Mr. Justice Holmwood's utterances or pressure from a higher power. Whatever the cause, the result shows that the old order is changing. This is comforting.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th May 1906.

655. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Lahore correspondent telegraphs that the Jullundur *punkha-coolie* murder case has

The Jullundur *punkha-coolie* case.

been dropped, and that there are persistent rumours that a warrant has been issued for the arrest of the father of the deceased for having given false evidence. The journal welcomes a prosecution, as many important facts are likely to transpire. For instance, it is said that the coolie died of double pneumonia. It, however, transpired that on the day of occurrence the deceased (who appeared to be perfectly healthy) walked a considerable distance to attend his work, 'and ate one pound of bread and curry before he died.' Is it possible for a dying man to do all this?

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th May 1906.

656. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* devotes a lengthy article to the doings of

Criminal and civil cases instituted against Mr. Jack, Settlement Officer.

Mr. Jack at present Settlement Officer of Backergunge. It appears that under the orders of his predecessor, Mr. Beatson-Bell, the rents payable by the tenants of villages Pub-Alipur, Pachim-Alipur, and Mirmadan were recorded at the old and not at the *kabuliyat* rates. The zamindars accordingly instituted rent-suits which were decreed in their favour, but as the tenants still refused to pay, their homesteads were sold by public auction with the aid of the police. This was completed on the 30th April last, and on the same night Messrs. Jack and Kemp proceeded to the spot, with what object subsequent events have shown. The former is alleged to have acted in a most 'violent and irresponsible' manner, as evidenced by the injuries inflicted on the zamindars' men by the recalcitrant tenants, who were encouraged by Mr. Jack, a responsible officer of Government. The result is that the new tenants have left the villages in terror, and the purchasers are accordingly claiming no less than

Rs. 5,000 as damages owing to the loss sustained by them. In addition, five criminal cases have been instituted against Mr. Jack, but Mr Emerson has complacently forwarded them to Mr. Kemp for inquiry and report!

657. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* reproduces the complaints made against Mr. Jack, Settlement Officer of Backergunge, by Baikanta Chunder Gupta, Naib Amadali Manjhi, Hochanali Gharami, and Jabbarali on oath, and considers that the tale of dire oppression they unfold

Criminal and civil cases instituted against Mr. Jack, Settlement Officer.

reads more like a romance than a reality. The duty of a Settlement Officer is to hear both sides, the zamindars and tenants, and then to record the rents in an equitable manner, but Mr. Jack has usurped the powers of an executive officer and used them against the zamindars and in favour of their refractory tenants in defiance of the decision of the Civil Courts. It is alleged that this officer caused innocent men to be arrested and severely beaten on the testimony of the refractory tenants that the former were *lathials*. There is ample corroborative evidence of Mr. Jack's guilt, but no action has been taken against him either by the District Magistrate or the Commissioner. Had such grave charges been brought against a zamindar, the entire machinery of the law would have been put in operation against him; but a summons has not even issued against Mr. Jack, and the whole matter has been referred to the Superintendent of Police for inquiry and report! This homely arrangement might serve some immediate purpose, but it will not help Mr. Jack in the least, as the aggrieved parties are determined to obtain justice.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
21st April 1906.

658. Referring to Sir Henry Cotton's communication to the *Times* regarding the barbarous sentences inflicted on the accused in the Munshigunge case, which sentence Sir Henry cannot bring himself to credit, the *Bengalee*

Administration of justice in the new Province.

writes that the sentence is unfortunately only too true. What is more astounding is that the trying Magistrate inflicted the severe punishment he did on the accused students, although he admitted that their object in interfering with the arrest of Abdul Ghani on a charge of committing a nuisance, "was not to break the law, but to see that an innocent man did not come by any trouble in their presence if they could help it." The man appealed to them and protested his innocence, and it was only when the constable insisted on taking him to the section and not to the thana, which was close by, that the students offered resistance. Their only object in doing so was to see that the accused got justice, and they insisted on his being taken to the thana, where they could give evidence in his favour. The trying Magistrate admits that they were prompted by the highest motives, but nevertheless one accused was sentenced to a fine of Rs. 500, another to a fine of Rs. 150, and the remaining two to thirty strokes each, with the fanciful object of curtailing the "prevailing spirit." The Magistrate has doubtless received his inspiration from Shillong, but nevertheless the standard of British justice has been lowered and the public confidence destroyed.

BENGALUR,
20th May 1906.

659. With reference to the Madaripur students' case, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* submits for the consideration of the Hon'ble Judges, certain general principles regarding the granting of rules for the transfer of cases.

The High Court and the transfer of cases.

The journal holds that whenever an application for a transfer is made, it should be granted for more reasons than one. In the first place, such an application amounts to an impeachment of the trying Magistrate, and it is only natural that he will deal still more hardly with the accused should the application be rejected. Then, again, such applications are only made when persons apprehend that they will not get a fair hearing. Lastly, it should be remembered that section 526, Criminal Procedure Code, which makes the transfer of cases easy, was conceded to the Indians by way of compensation for the jury system being withheld from them. As regards the question of cost—justice first, cost afterwards.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
21st May 1906.

(d)—Education.

660. Referring to the fine of Rs. 110 inflicted on the students of the Kishorganj High School for shouting *Bande Mataram* and the order of the Inspector of Schools directing that the fine be paid to the Mymensingh

Boycotting students at Kishorganj.

BENGALUR,
19th May 1906.

Anjuman Islamia, the *Bengalee* advises that in view of the withdrawal of Sir B. Fuller's foolish ukase and the official declaration regarding the harmless character of the cry, the students should stoutly refuse to pay the fine. The order directing the fine to be paid to a Muhammadan institution is calculated to excite race feeling, and it is simply preposterous that it should ever have been passed. Is the Inspector of Schools fit to hold his office after this insidious attempt to sow the seeds of disaffection?

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BENGALUR,
18th May 1906.

661. The *Bengalee* complains that Dr. Cook having obtained an extension of his services, his first move is to apply for leave on the score of ill-health in order to get "as much money as

The Health Officer's case. he can" out of the rate-payers. He has ill-repaid those who canvassed for him, and by keeping the Commissioners in the dark as to his intentions until he had gained his object, he has forfeited all claim to generous and considerate treatment.

BENGALUR,
19th May 1906.

662. The *Bengalee* writes that the outcry against the impure filtered water supplied to the residents of Calcutta, has caused the gravest alarm and apprehension in the public

Are we being poisoned? mind, and ample grounds have been furnished for a sifting inquiry to be made. In the opinion of the journal, a Commission composed of experts should be appointed to examine the reservoirs used for storing water. If these are found on examination to be open to objection, the construction of overhead reservoirs should be decided upon. The matter is of the utmost importance to the public health.

(h)—General.

INDIAN MIRROR,
12th May 1906.

663. The official version, says the *Indian Mirror*, will doubtless afford Sir B. Fuller and his subordinates some little solace, but truth must prevail in the end. There is no

The Barisal affair. doubt the officials were solely responsible for the muddle in which they found themselves and they have proved that they were wholly incompetent to deal with a simple situation. A little tact would have produced excellent results, but recourse was had to the regulation *lathi*, with the result that the administration was discredited and had to publish version after version to extricate itself.

INDIAN NATION,
14th May 1906.

664. There is no doubt says the *Indian Nation*, that the Barisal leaders abstained from shouting *Bande Mataram* and that the Calcutta delegates raised and encouraged others

Ibid. to raise the cry in order to test the legality of the circular. This, however, was not the view the police took of it, and accordingly interfered with those who accepted all responsibility for the cry being raised. Then, again, it would have been well had the Barisal leaders given their assurance that there would be no procession or organised shouting after the Conference, instead of saying that they were not aware of any such rumour. This ingenious fencing with a direct question lead to the dispersal of the Conference.

KAYESTHA
MESSENGER,
14th May 1906.

665. The *Kayestha Messenger* writes that the latest announcement of the Secretary of State for India has brought hope to the hopeless and relief to the suffering people of East Bengal. Mr. Morley has indeed been keeping a close watch on Indian affairs, as his recent action regarding the withdrawal of the *Bande Mataram* circular and the unconditional reinstatement of schoolboys shows. The journal is confident that redress must come in still greater measure when the true state of things in the new Province has been thoroughly grasped, for no Government, still less a Liberal Government, will tolerate the unadulterated despotism that has characterised the administration of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th May 1906.

666. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that in view of the Secretary of State's announcement regarding the unconditional reinstatement of expelled schoolboys and the with-

Ibid. drawal of circulars prohibiting processions, only two courses are open to Sir B. Fuller—resignation or acquiescence. The journal slyly observes that Sir William Grey and Sir George Campbell resigned under considerably less unfavourable conditions. How can Sir B. Fuller remain in office after being worsted in a quarrel with schoolboys?

667. The *Behar Times and News* writes that the recent circular withdrawing the *Bande Mataram* circulars has completely stultified the official defence in regard to the Barisal affair, and the numerous other acts of folly committed by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. The invariable plea has been that processions and the cry of *Bande Mataram* are likely to lead to a breach of the peace, but this plea has been suddenly abandoned. The only conclusion possible is that the original apprehension was fictitious. This is the beginning of the climbing down, and the ground is being prepared for the administrative somersaults that are to follow.

BEHAR TIMES AND
NEWS,
19th May 1906.

668. It is true, says the *Bengalee*, that the *Bande Mataram* circular has been withdrawn, but there is even a more mischievous circular yet in force, namely, the one prohibiting public meetings in public places. Is this to be withdrawn? A definite pronouncement should be made.

BENGALIEE,
19th May 1906.

The journal is grateful to the Secretary of State for the change he is inaugurating in the present repressive policy, but asserts that until those administrators who are the exponents of this policy are got rid of, the task of conciliation must necessarily be difficult and slow. It is not possible that the 'high-priest of brute force' and the advocate of the "hammering" policy can suddenly be transformed into the angel of peace. Beneficent rulers are essential to a beneficent policy; but even the benefits of such a policy will never allay the irritation caused by the partition. It is not till this obnoxious scheme is withdrawn that the present excitement will disappear.

669. It is characteristic of Sir B. Fuller, writes the *Bengalee*, that no information has yet been vouchsafed to the public regarding the Secretary of State's order unconditionally reinstating expelled schoolboys, but now that the secret is out, it is hoped that Sir B. Fuller will proceed to carry out orders with what grace he can command. No other Lieutenant-Governor would have remained in office after such humiliation!

BENGALIEE,
19th May 1906.

670. Sir B. Fuller has at last been thrown overboard, says the *Indian Mirror*, and the check he has received has doubtless dissipated his belief that the people are entirely at the mercy of his repressive administration. He failed to understand that schoolboys were schoolboys all over the world, and entered into an alliance with the educational authorities to hunt them down. The cry of *Bande Mataram* was interdicted for no reason, and processions stopped. This was the situation in the new Province, and it is fortunate indeed that Sir B. Fuller has been reined up in time.

INDIAN MIRROR,
19th May 1906.

671. Whether Lord Minto's Government was instrumental in having the obnoxious *Bande Mataram* circulars withdrawn, or whether the mandate proceeded direct from the Secretary of State, one thing is certain, says *Power and Guardian*, namely, that Sir B. Fuller did not take the initiative in the matter. His humiliation is therefore complete. But the most important announcement is the *unconditional reinstatement* of expelled schoolboys. What would their fate have been, but for this saving decision? Why were they expelled at all? Merely because they attended *swadeshi* meetings? This was preposterous! Sudden elevation to power appears to have been too much for Sir B. Fuller, and has occasioned an equally sudden loss of power, thanks to the firmness of the present Secretary of State. Sir B. Fuller will doubtless feel his humiliation keenly, but the salary he draws will deter him from adopting the only honourable course—resignation.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
20th May 1906.

672. The *Indian Empire* writes that the unhappy events in the new Province were directly attributable to the existence of the *Bande Mataram* circular. Its practical withdrawal, therefore, is to be regarded as a prodigy of self-sacrifice on the part of Sir B. Fuller. There is much speculation as to whether he was compelled to withdraw it, but in a matter like this no useful purpose is served by looking deeper than the surface. The circular has been withdrawn, and this was all the people wanted.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
22nd May 1906.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th May 1906.

673. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* Mymensingh correspondent writes that attempts are being made to show that the Hindus had driven the Musalmans into a state of revolt.

The Mymensingh raid.

It is further alleged that the Military Police despatched to Mymensingh to suppress the disturbances are terrorising the Hindus. This, says the *Patrika*, was expected; but will not Sir B. Fuller commit another egregious mistake if he holds the Hindus responsible for the recent disturbances? It is absurd to suppose that the Muhammadans were oppressed by their Hindu landlords because they would not join the *swadeshi* movement. The real truth is that the Muhammadans broke bounds because they were confident of official support.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
20th May 1906.

674. It was hoped, says *Power and Guardian*, that the abolition of Cooper's Hill College would in no way prejudice the impartial system of recruitment for the Public Works

An invidious distinction.

Department of India, but judging from a recent Resolution notifying that not more than 10 per cent. of the appointments would be given to Indian candidates at present in the United Kingdom, there is evidently going to be an unjustifiable departure, prompted by race considerations. Why should not these appointments, as hitherto, be fairly apportioned, and why should not an open competitive examination be held? These posts are very responsible ones and no one should be appointed to them without being subjected to a crucial test. Colour and creed should play no part in the matter of selection.

III.—LEGISLATION.

INDIAN NATION,
14th May 1906.

675. The *Indian Nation* emphatically vetoes the proposal of Government that in electing a member for the Bengal Council, Municipalities or District Boards should

District Boards and the Legislative Council.

confine their choice to those who are actually members of these bodies. The Boards are quite free to elect one of their own body, but the fact that they return outsiders shows that they are anxious to secure the services of the best available men to represent the Division. The proposed amendment has therefore no justification and must have the baneful effect of narrowing the sphere of selection.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
20th April 1906.

676. *Power and Guardian* urges that in view of the fierce opposition aroused by the proposed rule permitting self-governing bodies to nominate to the provincial

Ibid.

Council none but members of such bodies, it should be abandoned. The people want their interests guarded by the best men they can get, and they consider that the new rule would defeat this object, as members of self-governing institutions are not always men of independence and ability. But why has the Government sought to introduce this uncalled-for change?

BENGALER,
18th May 1906.

677. The *Bengaler* indulges in a scathing criticism of the rules framed for the election of Members to the Council of Eastern Bengal and Assam. These rules provide

The Assam Legislative Council.

that, as in Bengal, certain bodies and associations will have the privilege of returning or recommending a certain proportion of members to the Council, but this is to be done, not as in Bengal through the medium of delegates who, record their votes at a public meeting, but through the post, such delegate being required to send his vote to Mr. Lyon, 'Prime Minister to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the confused and confounded Province,' direct. What is the unholy object of this secret voting through the post-office? Publicity is the only safeguard against abuse, and if it is done away with, the elective system is converted into one of the worst jobberies known. If this secrecy has been devised in order to secure impartiality in election, all that can be said is that a Government that has this ludicrous conception of a representative system need not have a Council at all. There is not an iota of genuineness or ingenuity in this departure from established and approved principles of voting. But why should not this revolutionary change be carried to its logical extreme? Thus when the Council is formed, its members should not for the same reason be allowed to meet in Council, but should be required to send in their votes on each motion or amendment to the Lieutenant-Governor, who will then pass his decision. This decision will be duly published in the *Assam Gazette* which, like Hattersley's Improved Loom, will turn out at least three pieces of crushing legislation daily. This process, in

addition to possessing the recommendation of economy, has the advantage of being effective, for it will do away with interpellation and its attendant evils.

678. The District Boards of the Rajshahi Division have been called upon to nominate a member for a seat on the new Council, and the question is, says the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, whether anyone should stand as a candidate, or, in other words, admit partition. Apart from this, there are serious apprehensions as to the effect this Council will have on the new Province. The following episode shows that these apprehensions are not groundless. The Rent Committee which recently sat in Bengal was of opinion that certain reforms it proposed should be extended to the new province, but Sir B. Fuller strongly opposed this and declared that he wanted a separate system of law and regulations. Do the landholders realise the impending danger? With a standing majority in Council Sir B. Fuller will be able to abolish even the Permanent Settlement. Let no one with a drop of Bengali blood in his veins enter the Council, for they must in spite of themselves be a party to all Government measures. Bengalis should not commit suicide for the sake of an empty title.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
19th May 1906.

679. The *Bengalee* warns its countrymen not to flout public opinion and stultify their country's protests against partition by standing for election to the Council of the new Province. Let them remember the series of despotic acts culminating in the Barisal affair before they jeopardise the national cause for purposes of self-aggrandisement. Can any self-respecting citizen consent to be a member of a Council presided over by Sir B. Fuller, 'the high-priest of unconstitutionality'? Has the partition been forgotten, and are the public bodies going to demonstrate the hollowness of the people's protests? This must not be, and the new Council must be shunned, because public opinion demands that it should.

BENGALUR,
20th May 1906.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

680. The *Bengalee* is doubtful whether the circular recently issued by the Foreign Department to all the Residents and Political Officers directing that they must pay rent in proportion to their salaries when they occupy any building other than that officially provided for them, will restrain these "Purple Politicals." There are so many ways in which they can make their power felt in a Native State, that it would not be surprising if they obtained a refund of the amount paid as rent in some indirect way! Such a procedure would not be out of harmony with the traditions of the Political Department, the officers of which generally retire with colossal fortunes.

BENGALUR,
17th May 1906.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

681. Some say, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, that it would be suicidal for Indians to resign certain honorary posts, and contend that a Commissioner of the Calcutta Corporation, for instance can, by retaining his office, be of some service to the rate-payers. The fallacy in this reasoning is apparent, since he is almost always in a hopeless minority. There is no doubt, however, that a Commissioner of the Corporation can be of service to himself or to a protégé by burning incense at the shrine of the Chairman. The same remarks apply to the unofficial members of the University or the Legislative Council, for they are mere ornamentals and their resignation of their respective offices would inflict no loss upon the country but upon themselves. It is true that every man has a right to advance his own interests, but then he must do so openly and not in the disguise of a public man and a patriot. The country has a right to expect this.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
7th May 1906.

682. The *Hindoo Patriot* writes that, whatever explanation may be offered in order to justify the costly military policy, there is no denying the fact that this policy casts a slur upon the admitted loyalty of the Indians. If in the unsettled days of the Mughal Empire, the conquered race were admitted into the highest ranks of the army, surely the mighty British Government can follow a similar policy without the least danger to itself? It is contended that the Indian is unfit for military service. The glaring iniquity of this contention is apparent. He is first disarmed, deprived of every opportunity of receiving a military training, and then declared unfit! But if the politics of the East demand an

HINDOO PATRIOT,
10th May 1906.

increased military expenditure, equity and justice demand that the Imperial Government should bear its portion of the cost. The colonies, although enjoying autonomy, are not required to incur any cost for their defence, while official-ridden, voiceless India is saddled with the entire cost of a huge army which is freely used for "Imperial" purposes!

INDIAN NATION,
14th May 1906.

683. The *Indian Nation* raises its voice against the form which political

Our methods of operation.

agitation in this country has recently assumed, and counsels the leaders to be more far-seeing, more prudent, and more statesmanlike. The prevailing idea is to boycott the Government, to have nothing to do with its appointments, paid or unpaid, and to carry on the *swadeshi* with emphasis and vigour. Supposing every non-official Municipal Commissioner resigned, who would be the sufferers—the Government or the people? If all Munsifs and Deputy Magistrates resigned and their places were not filled up, who would suffer? Do these officials try cases in which the Government and Europeans are concerned, or do they settle the disputes of the masses? If Government has no native police officers, it may appoint Europeans to guard the lives and property of their countrymen, and if the native population were left unprotected, how would it fare? There are numerous other instances to show that the idea of wholesale resignation is very much like a 'rebellion of the legs against the belly.' Does not this stultify the agitators themselves? What has the country been demanding for the last 30 years, but self-government, increased representation, extended employment, and various other political rights? Are the people going to forego these valued rights and thrust themselves into prehistoric barbarism? The English people in their country have experienced worse oppression than the Indians are experiencing now, but did the former give up agitation, or agitate all the more? Resignation is the besetting sin of the Indian character. It may suit the *sanyasi*, but not the political agitator.

BENGALIEE,
17th May 1906.

684. It is a distinct gain to India, writes the *Bengalee*, that the *Times* in

The new forces.

a recent article has recognised that the political forces in this country are growing. But what are these political forces, and whither are they drifting? Are they the adjuncts of a sympathetic Government, helping it in the difficult task of administering a foreign country, or are they signals of impending danger? Yes, these forces are to-day the opposing forces, but it was possible for the Government to have retained them as friendly forces. The present situation is one of acute antagonism, and the climax was reached during Lord Curzon's reactionary régime. Is it too late to recall the errors of the past and wipe out the repression of years? This is a question for Lord Minto and the Secretary of State to decide, but the decision must be prompt and tempered with the highest statesmanship, as this alone can avert the inevitable conflict between the rulers and the ruled.

BENGALIEE,
17th May 1906.

The *Bengalee* replying to the *Pioneer's* query as to what the next generation

The *Pioneer* and the students.

of Bengalis will be when the students and school-boys of to-day are grown up, says that the coming generation will be *swadeshi* in all things—in their dress, ideals and aspirations, in their educational methods, and in their industrial yearnings. This will be the India of the future—the India of Lord Curzon's creation.

BENGALIEE,
17th May 1906.

686. The *Bengalee* agrees with the Secretary of State that it is incumbent

How to allay the excitement.

on the present Anglo-Indian administrators to allay popular excitement, and says that this can only be done by the withdrawal of the partition and the removal of Sir B. Fuller. All other measures will be in the nature of mere palliatives. Why does not Sir B. Fuller help the Government by leaving the country for the country's good?

687. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* impresses on its countrymen not to

The Secretary of State.

place any hope in Mr. Morley's sympathetic assurances, as they do not bear on the one vital question, namely, the partition, which constitutes the main grievance of the country. The repressive rule of Sir B. Fuller is an additional wrong. The Secretary of State is striving to remove the latter, but the original grievance of the people has not been touched. By teaching Sir B. Fuller to rule

constitutionally, the Government is serving its own interests and not those of the people. The latter are entitled to a Governor and a Council, and why should they be kept out of their rights?

688. The *Behar Herald* firmly believes that the primary cause of the present discontent is want of sympathy with the people and ignorance of prevailing conditions. Public confidence in the impartial administration of justice has been shaken, as the executive have debased

Want of sympathy and knowledge at the root of the present discontent.

and overawed the tribunals. The police, armed with extensive powers, continue to grind the people. Thus, what with an unscrupulous police and a degraded Magistracy, the people are hopeless. This has been their desperate condition for years, but their entreaties and threats have been ignored. The Government has not thought it necessary to feel the pulse of popular feeling. That was a negligible quantity; hence the measures of Government are as a rule opposed to the wishes and demands of the people. This unsympathetic attitude would assuredly be abandoned if the Government but realised that it existed to consult and not shun public opinion.

BEHAR HERALD,
19th May 1906.

689. The *Bengalee* fears that the Prince of Wales was deceived by the siren voice of officialdom when he declared at the recent Guildhall Banquet that the officials in India were "working hand in hand with the representatives of different races." Was not the Prince in Bengal at a time when the province was in a state of ferment—the outcome not of working "hand in hand," but of an unseemly and ill-matched tug-of-war between the people and their unsympathetic rulers?

The Prince of Wales at the Guildhall.

BENGALKEE,
19th May 1906.

690. The *Bengalee* writes that when His Royal Highness declared that his Indian tour had satisfied him that the "task of governing India would be made easier" if a "wider element of sympathy" were infused into it, he indirectly charged the Indian administration with a lamentable lack of sympathy calculated to aggravate the difficulties which beset a foreign Government. It is extremely fortunate that His Royal Highness should have come to India at a time when he had abundant evidence of the pernicious results of Lord Curzon's repressive methods and measures.

Ibid.

BENGALKEE,
20th May 1906.

691. The *Behar Herald* writes that a great deal is said about the implacable hostility of the Native Press. As regards this body, adverse criticism is dubbed a crime—an abuse of freedom. No matter how oppressive certain measures of Government are, the criticism of the Native Press must be 'rose-water and kisses.' If it is not, the gagging process is at once suggested as the only means of nullifying a combative element. This is indeed quite a wrong view to take of the matter as, in spite of its faults, the press plays a most important part in the administration. It lays before the Government both sides of the picture, which the Anglo-Indian journals do not do, and is in reality a valuable adviser of the British Government in India. It is true that if the Native Press were gagged there would be no exposure of public scandals, no pillorying of Government officials and measures in Parliament, but, then, would not the Government be showing that they prefer darkness to light because their deeds are evil?

The Native Press.

BEHAR HERALD,
29th May 1906.

692. *Power and Guardian* considers that Mr. Morley's recent utterances in Parliament afford a very reasonable explanation of the changed attitude of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam. Indeed, had not Lord Minto relieved the "great pro-consul" and the Liberal Government come into power, the British nation would have witnessed a spectacle of which it would hardly have been proud. Sympathy has saved the situation created by Sir B. Fuller's Russian methods.

The invisible hand.

POWER AND
GUARDIAN,
20th May 1906.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.
OF POLICE, L. P.,
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 26th May, 1906.

F. C. DALY,

Persl. Asst. to the Insp.-Genl. of Police, L. P.

THE
END